



D³ Consultants
DEDICATION. DEVOTION. DEPENDABILITY.

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3-ways coronavirus pandemic could reshape Education

- The coronavirus pandemic has changed how millions around the globe are educated.
- New solutions for education could bring much needed innovation.
- Given the digital divide, new shifts in education approaches could widen equality gaps.

In a matter of weeks, coronavirus (COVID-19) has changed how students are educated around the world. Those changes give us a glimpse at how education could change for the better - and the worse - in the long term. The risk-control decisions have led millions of students into temporary 'home-schooling' situations, these changes have prompted new examples of educational innovation. Although it is too early to judge how reactions to COVID-19 will affect education systems around the world, there are signs suggesting that it could have a lasting impact on the trajectory of learning innovation and digitization

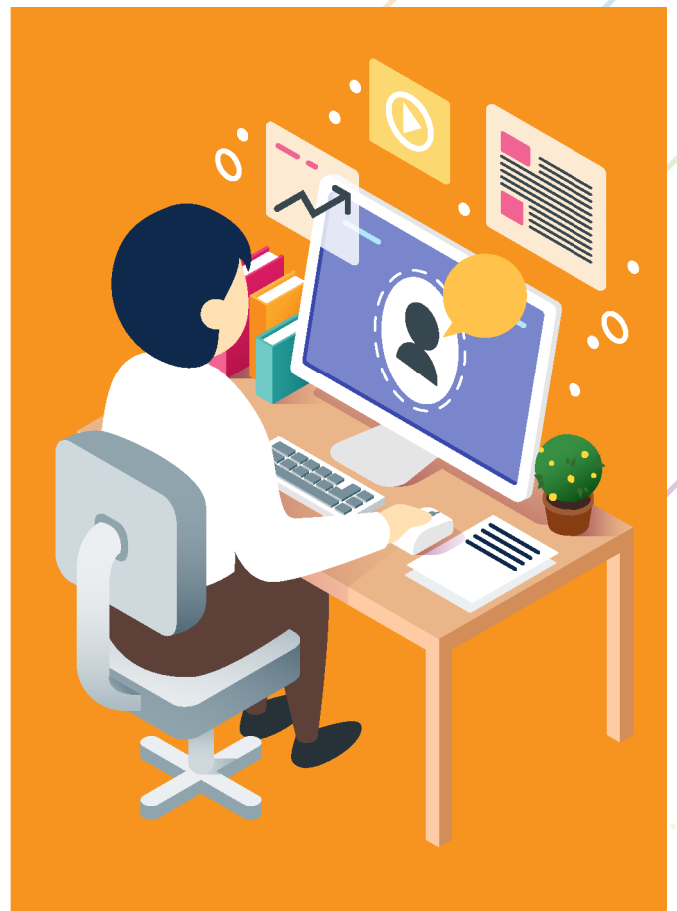
1 Education - nudged & pushed to change - could lead to surprising innovations

The slow pace of change in academic institutions globally is lamentable, with centuries-old, lecture-based approaches to teaching, entrenched institutional biases, and outmoded classrooms. However, COVID-19 has become a catalyst for educational institutions worldwide to search for innovative solutions in a relatively short period of time.

To help slow the virus' spread, students started to learn at home via:

1. Interactive apps
2. Learning material through live television broadcasts
3. Standard asynchronous online learning tools (such as reading material via Google Classroom).
4. Augmented with synchronous face-to-face video instructions.

With 5G technology becoming more prevalent we will see learners and solution providers truly embracing the 'learning anywhere, anytime' concept of digital education in a range of formats. Learning could become a habit that is integrated into daily routines - a true lifestyle.





2 Public-private educational partnerships could grow in importance

In just the past few weeks, we have seen learning consortiums and coalitions taking shape, with diverse stakeholders - including governments, publishers, education professionals, technology providers, and telecom network operators - coming together to utilize digital platforms as a temporary solution to the crisis.

1. Develop a new cloud-based online learning and broadcasting platforms.
2. Upgrade a suite of education infrastructure.
3. Providing more than 900 educational assets, including videos, book chapters, assessment tools, and counseling services for free

In emerging countries where education has predominantly been provided by the government, this could become a prevalent and consequential trend to future education.

3 The digital divide could widen

Most schools in affected areas are finding stop-gap solutions to continue teaching, but the quality of learning is heavily dependent on the level and quality of digital access. After all, only around 60% of the globe's population is online. While virtual classes on personal tablets may be the norm in Hong Kong, for example, many students in less developed economies rely on lessons and assignments sent via WhatsApp or email.

Moreover, the less affluent and digitally savvy individual families are, the further their students are left behind. When classes transition online, these children lose out because of the cost of digital devices and data plans.

Unless access costs decrease and quality of access increase in all countries, the gap in education quality, and thus socioeconomic equality will be further exacerbated. The digital divide could become more extreme if education access is dictated by access to the latest technologies.

The rapid spread of COVID-19 has demonstrated the importance of building resilience to face various threats, from pandemic disease to extremist violence to climate insecurity, and even, yes, rapid technological change. The pandemic is also an opportunity to remind ourselves of the skills students need in this unpredictable world such as informed decision making, creative problem solving, and perhaps above all, adaptability. To ensure those skills remain a priority for all students, resilience must be built into our educational systems as well.

